

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1134) "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of certain disaster mitigation payments."

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1745. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to contractual offset agreements, memoranda of understanding, and waivers for foreign-produced goods; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1746. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Legislative Recommendations 2005"; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-1747. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Test Program for Negotiation of Comprehensive Small Business Subcontracting Plans" (DFARS Case 2004-D029) received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1748. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contractor Performance of Acquisition Functions Closely Associated with Inherently Governmental Functions" (DFARS Case 2004-D021) received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1749. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contractor Performance of Security-Guard Functions" (DFARS Case 2004-D032) received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1750. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "31 CFR part 542: Syrian Sanctions Regulations" received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1751. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Collection of Civil

Penalties in the Iranian Assets Control Regulations, the Libyan Sanctions Regulations, and the Iraqi Sanctions Regulations" received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1752. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Market Regulation, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commission Guidance Regarding Prohibited Conduct in Connection with IPO Allocations" received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1753. A communication from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Plan Colombia/Andean Ridge Counterdrug Initiative Semi-Annual Obligation Report, 3rd and 4th Quarters Fiscal Year 2004"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1754. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's 2004 fiscal year report on the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1755. A communication from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's report entitled "Performance Profiles of Major Energy Producers 2003"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1756. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Virginia Regulatory Program" (VA-121-FOR) received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1757. A communication from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's annual report entitled "Assessment of the Cattle, Hog, Poultry, and Sheep Industries"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1758. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Minimal Risk Regions and Importation of Commodities; Finding of No Significant Impact and Affirmation of Final Rule" (APHIS Docket No. 03-080-7) received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1759. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2004 report relative to the Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act of 2002; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1760. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's report entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Facilities"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1761. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "West Nile Virus Prevention and Control: Ensuring the Safety of the Blood Supply and Assessing Pesticide Spraying"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1762. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for the

Handling of Discrimination Complaints Under Section 6 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002" (RIN1218-AC12) received on April 11, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1763. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations" (Docket No. 2000N-1596) received on April 11, 2005.

EC-1764. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals: Poly(2-vinylpyridine-co-styrene); Salts of Volatile Fatty Acids" received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1765. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Toxicology Devices; Instrumentation for Clinical Multiplex Test Systems" received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1766. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Toxicology Devices; Drug Metabolizing Enzyme Genotyping System" received on April 13, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 811. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 812. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a flat tax only on individual taxable earned income and business taxable income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 813. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate for lower prices for Medicare prescription drugs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 814. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to promote the development of Federal coal resources; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 815. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a 15-year applicable recovery period for depreciation of certain electric transmission property; to the Committee on Finance.